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sentence such as this: "it has been necessary to let our glance sweep the horizon of his youthful life to see how he was affected by enviroing circumstances and events".

Perhaps the best pages in the book are those devoted to Grumbkow. Here the current idea that the Prussian minister was nothing but a paid spy of Austria is attacked. But the author runs away from every difficulty. That Grumbkow received a yearly pension from Austria is asserted by Koser on the strength of accounts handed in by Seckendorf to Prince Eugene. Brode simply remarks, "the proof that Grumbkow received a pension has not yet been furnished". Altogether the book is, in itself, as much of a psychological problem as Brode claims to be the case with Frederick's character.

ERNEST F. HENDERSON.

Frederick the Great and the Rise of Prussia. By W. F. REDDAWAY, M.A. [Heroes of the Nations.] (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1904. Pp. xi, 368.)

MR. REDDAWAY's history of Frederick is likely to be of use to students of this period for the reason that he is thoroughly up-to-date with his authorities. He has used the *Political Correspondence* which is in course of publication, and he has also read to advantage Koser's second volume. His accounts of battles are clear and vivid, and the little maps that show the disposition of the troops are a boon to the reader. The style in general is good.

With the arrangement of the book there is cause to quarrel, although the subtitle, "the Rise of Prussia", is somewhat disarming. Yet it surely is disproportionate, in a biography of Frederick, that more than seven-eighths of the volume should be concerned with the period anterior to 1763, although actually that date marks but the central point of the reign. Moreover in a work on a "Hero of the Nation" one has a right to expect a little less general military and diplomatic history, and a little more study of personality. Even Frederick's outward appearance is scarcely done justice to by the casual remarks that his ablutions were few, his uniform usually faded and covered with snuff, his boots "through neglect, of a reddish color", his bearing "stern and caressing by turns", his voice clarion, his eye commanding. We have definite descriptions of him which might better have been quoted, like that of the Marquis de Bouillé, who saw him as an old man. As to any real weighing or study of character such as we find, for instance, in L. Paul-Dubois, *Frédéric le Grand d'après sa Correspondance Politique*, no such attempt is made at all. Yet Frederick's character, with its contradictions and idiosyncrasies, is very interesting indeed. Even his threats and insults are attenuated when we see him so conscious of his own shortcomings as to inquire anxiously about new ambassadors whether they can stand occasional outbursts or not, handing document after document to Podewils with instructions to tone down the violence of their language, and taking great pains to explain

to an offended Mardefeld that his one and only object in scolding him had been to incite him to greater efforts. And Reddaway's treatment of the literary and philosophic side of Frederick's life is absolutely inadequate; all the references to Voltaire together fill little more than a page, while d'Argenson and d'Argens are not even mentioned.

The weakest part of the whole book is that which deals with Frederick before his accession. Reddaway shares with Tuttle a contempt for King Frederick William I which makes his narrative descend to the level of mere invective. He has, for instance, no more real ground for saying that the king's "mixture of fervent piety and immorality suggests that he was hardly sane", or that he "drank himself to death before he was fifty-two", than Tuttle had to speak of the "sour beer" and "stale tobacco" of the famous tobacco parliament. If the beer was sour, it was not Frederick William's fault, for we have his admonition to twenty-seven towns of Prussia to bring the quality of their beer up to that of the beer of Potsdam; while the charge of immorality can only be traced to a scurrilous remark of Wilhelmina and is in direct contradiction to a mass of other evidence. Altogether Wilhelmina is given too much credit by Reddaway, as also by Tuttle. Since Droysen proved that all the letters cited in her memoirs are fabricated, her credibility has been more and more shaken, and there are German scholars of repute who go so far as to consider her utterly unfit to be quoted as an authority except where her statements can be controlled.

In his description of Frederick's attempt at flight Reddaway has made several careless statements. Katte was not one of the confederates who "tried to steal from the royal camp at dawn and to ride into France" (p. 32). He had remained in Berlin, and it was there that he was arrested. Keith was Frederick William's page, not Frederick's. Frederick did not, on October 11, 1730, "declare to the commission that he was ready to renounce the succession". On the contrary, he answered, to quote the protocol of Grumbkow, that "life was not so very dear to him, but his royal Majesty would not be so ungracious to him as all that". Finally it cannot be said that "Frederick had neither acted nor *tried to act* in collusion with any foreign Power". Katte confessed that among letters that he had destroyed there had been one from George of England, while Frederick himself avowed that the English special envoy, Hotham, had known of the intended flight. In fact Frederick had tried in every way to make Guy Dickens, the regular envoy, promise him that England would grant him asylum, and Dickens had been obliged to threaten him with the retraction of a promise to pay his debts, which debts, again, Frederick had placed many thalers too high in order that he might have funds for his undertaking.

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